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Jean Chabut, Chief Center for Health Promotion Michigan Department of Public Health 3423 N. Logan Street P.O. Box 30195 Lansing, MI 48909

September 13, 1990

## Dear Jean:

The American Lung Association (ALA) of Michigan is pleased to lend its support to the American Euop Smoking Intervention Study (ASSIST) proposal which is being submitted to the National Cancer Institute by the Michigan Department of Public Health in cooperation with the American Cancer Society - Michigan Division. The ALA of Michigan is dedicated to the conquest of lung disease and promotion of lung health. Since one of the fundamental organizational values of the ALA of Michigan is teamwork, the association welcomes the opportunity to participate in coalitions of this nature.

In lending the association's support to this proposal, it is my understanding that ASSIST is intended to mobilize community-based tobacco control coalitions throughout the entire state and will emphasize smoking interventions for high risk populations, including minorities, women, heavy smokers, and youth. I also understand the Tobacco-Free Michigan Action Coalition (TUFF-MAC) will be responsible for overseeing the ASSIST project.

Last year, the ALA of Michigan participated in the 1989 Michigan Tobacco Reduction Task Force. The recommendations of that task force provide a comprehensive plan of action for tobacco control policy initiatives to be undertaken during the 1990s. The ALA of Michigan is fully committed to pursuing these recommendations. I understand TUFF-MAC will use the task force recommendations as the foundation for its public policy activities.

Since 1984, the ALA of Michigan has been a sponsoring member of the Michigan Coalition on Smoking Or Health, which is a 501-C-4 corporation. The purpose of this coalition is to provide a broad base of support for legislative initiatives to reduce the use of tobacco products. We expect future tobacco control legislative initiatives will be led by the Michigan Coalition on Smoking Or Health, in cooperation with TUFF-MAC.

The ALA of Michigan was pleased to be invited to participate in a leadership role in TUFF-MAC; and, as President of the ALA of Michigan, I am looking forward to serving as a co-chairperson of TUFF-MAC.



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The American Lung Association has a wide variety of smoking cessation and prevention resources available. Through ASSIST and collaborative efforts with TUFF-MAC, the ALA of Michigan could significantly increase the effectiveness and efficiency of its tobacco control efforts. We sincerely hope that Michigan will be selected as an ASSIST community. Please let me know how the ALA of Michigan can best support your efforts.

Sincerely,

Carole A. Keepe

Carole Wingate Keefe, Ph.D., President American Lung Association of Michigan

cc: Robert

Robert G. Smith, Executive Director

Paul N. Shaheen, Chairperson - Government and Public Relations

Committee

Harry Perlstadt, Ph.D., M.P.H., Chairperson - Smoking Or Health

Committee